

UNAI and SDSN Join Forces to Advance the Sustainable Development Goals

The UN Academic Impact (UNAI) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) are pleased to announce a strategic collaboration in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN Academic Impact and the SDSN will work together in mobilizing universities and other knowledge institutions to promote teaching, applied research, and problem solving around the 17 goals adopted in September 2015 by Heads of State and Government at their summit meeting at the United Nations in New York.

As part of this collaboration, the SDSN will promote the goals of the UN Academic Impact amongst its member universities and make its resources available to members of the UN Academic Impact. The UN Academic Impact will publicize its collaboration with the SDSN, as appropriate so as to enable UNAI's interested member institutions to avail themselves of SDSN resources. Both UNAI and SDSN will offer all their members, existing and future, concurrent membership, and make their expertise available for promoting progress on the SDGs. The UNAI and SDSN will host, from time to time, academic events and seminars to bring together members from the UN family and academia to discuss specific issues of research and policy relevant to the UN's objectives, including the SDGs. The UN Academic Impact and the SDSN will work together to generate relevant academic content, reaching out to scholars around the world, and will work with them to integrate content into global academic programs. Both initiatives will work to link and promote their youth networks and promote each other's work within network entities including regional centres, regional networks and national networks as applicable.

Says UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon: "Realizing the bold 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require new global partnerships. Both the UN Academic Impact and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network are engaging with the academic community to promote, respectively, the values of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals. I welcome their collaboration as an important new way to mobilize universities in our historic effort to realize a life of dignity for all."

About the UN Academic Impact

The UN Academic Impact works with institutions of higher education and research around the world to further the realisation of the United Nation's goals and objectives. It recognizes and cooperates with its member universities in promoting the values of the United Nations through research, relevant educational courses and campus activities. Resolution A/RES/70/224 adopted by the last session of the United Nations General Assembly "invites the academic, research and scientific communities to contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, in this regard, recognizes the important role of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), among other initiatives, and encourages the UNAI to play an important and growing role in fostering global citizenship, filling knowledge gaps and facilitating better understanding of the core principles and activities of the United Nations."

About the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was launched in 2012 at the request of the UN Secretary-General in order to mobilize scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society, and the private sector in support of sustainable development problem solving at local, national, and global scales. The SDSN aims to accelerate joint learning and help to overcome the compartmentalization of technical and policy work by promoting integrated approaches to the interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges confronting the world.